RAJYA SABHA

Friday, the 4th January, 1991/
14th Pausa 1912 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the clock,

Mr. Chairman in the Chair.

INTRODUCTION OF DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER

प्रधानमंत्री (श्री चन्द्रशेखर) : माननीय सभापति जी, आपके आदेश से मुझे इस बात की प्रसन्नता है कि मैं भारत के उप प्रधान मंत्री, कृषि और पर्यटन मंत्री श्री देवीलाल जी का आपसे और सदन से परिचय करा रहा हूं ।

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Reduction in the supply of essential commodities to Pondicherry

*121. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the previous Government had reduced the supply of essential commodities to Podicherry by 25 per cent on the ground of the Gulf crisis; and

(b) if, whether Government propose to increase the quota for those commodities for the Public Distribution System in Pondicherry?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI RAO BIRENDRA SINGH): (a) No, Sir. There was no reduction in the allocation of PDS items to Podicherry except in the case of edible oil for the month of November due to reduction in supplies in case of all the States.

(b) Does not arise. However, while making allotment of essential commodities, the Central Government take into consideration, among other factors, the demand from State Govt./UT Administrations and availability in the Central stock

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Mr. Chairman, Sir, Pondicherry being a Union territory, politically and administratively that State has been neglected by the Central Givernment since it is under the mercy of the Central Government. About a month back, the then Chief Minister convened a meeting of the 20 point programme Review Committee In that meeting when we put a question about non-supply of essential items lke kerosene, rice and edible oil to the consumers—a reduction was made in that—the Chief Minister replied that in the Food and Civil Supplies Ministers meeting at the Centre, due to the Gulf crisis, a 25 per cent cut of the supplies was made from the Central stock and, therefore, they could not supply the essential items as was done in the earlier period. Sir, now the Minister here gives a reply that there was no reduction in the supply of stock from the Central pool. Sir, I would like to know about it because kerosene is in short supply. Sugar, which was 400 grams per unit was reduced to 200 grams per unit, rice which was 25 kilograms per month was reduced to 15 kilograms. This was the state of affairs in my State. People have to stand in long queues. Now the Minister says that supplies were made. Therefore, I would like to know what were the supplies made of essential items in the months of August and November... (*Interruptions*)...

SHRI RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: Sir, I can't say what the Chief Minister told his friends there, but so far as supplies and allocation from our side are concerned, I will give him the figures for the months of October and November as the honourable Member has demanded. Allocation of wheat for October was 75,000 tonnes; rice was 2,000 tonnes Against this 2,000 tonnes, the lifting was of the order of only 300 tonnes The kerosene allocation was 1 070 tonnes. The lifting was 1,040 tonnes The imported edible oil supply was.

AN HON MEMBER: He can lay it on the table of the House

SHRI RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: I will pass it on to the Member, Sir.

SHRI V NARAYANASAMY: I was asking a particular question whether

due to the Gulf crisis 25 per cent reduction was made in the supply to the States, especially to my Union Territory or not

SHRI RAO BIRENDRA SINGH In spite of the Gulf problem we have been making the normal supply of Kerosene to your State

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY. Only kerosene

SHRI RAO BIRENDRA SINGH I do not know why the Chief Minister says that because of the Gulf crisis the supply was reduced

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN. He can say anything because it is the DMK.

SHRI V NARAYANASAMY It was a recorded meeting, the minutes have been prepared. The Chief Minister's reply was also in writing.

SHRI RAO BIRENDRA SINGH, If he allows, I will speak

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY. The second part of my supplementary is this. Especially my State is a rice-eating State. The people are eating only rice But there the supply of wheat is 75,000 tonnes, and that of rice is only 2,000 tonnes Where people are not eating wheat, they are sending wheat to the State, and where people are eating wheat, they are sending rice to that State. That is how they are allocating supplies to various States

Now Sir, I would like to know this from the hon Minister For supply of more rice, kerosene, sugar and also palm oil, edible oil, the Civil Supplies Minister from Pondicherry has written to the Government When Mr Vishwanath Pratap Singh was the Prime Minister, the letter was written There was no response from the earlier Ministry Was any action taken on the letter written by the Civil Supplies Minister of the State?

SHRI RAO BIRENDRA SINGH I would like to correct my previous statement with your permission The allocations of wheat was 750 tonnes, not 75,000 tonnes. (*Interruptions*) The rice allocation was 2,000 tonnes, but only 400 tonnes was lifted by the Government in the month of October. Similarly in November also the rice allocated was 2,000 tonnes, but the lifting by the State was only 300 tonnes So, you cannot say that the allocation was not enough because even the allocated quantities were not lifted

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY What about kerosene and edible oil, Mr Mr Minister?

SHRI RAO BIRENDRA SINGH Can he put a hundred questions one after another, Sir?

SHRI V NARAYANASAMY. You are not answering my question. Sir, I seek your protection

MR CHAIRMAN: He has said already that there was no reduction in the quota of kerosene oil That he has said earlier

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY. What about edible oil?

श्री सभापति : एडिबल ऑयल के बारे में बता दीजिये । बाद में दूसरी चीज पूछ लेंगे ।

SHRI RAO BIRENDRA SINGH. I will mention about edible oil also, Sir. In October the allocation of edible oil was 750 tonnes, and the lifting by the State was 840 tonnes

SHRI V NARAYANASAMY More supply you have made

SHRI RAO BIRENDRA SINGH. How to satisfy him, Sir, now? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI G.G SWELL . Sir, I would like to know from the Minister whether or not the political and communal turmoil in the country and the shortage and the higher price of vehicular fuel have affected the movement of essential commodities in the country, number one No 2 he is aware that the North East comprising seven States, 1|12th of the land mass of the country, is a long

hop from different places of supplies and that they have to pass through a narrow conduit between Bangladesh and Bhutan; and in the event of any crisis, the entire area is likely to be cut off. I would like to know whether his Ministry has done any exercise as to the monthly requirements of these various States and whether steps have been taken to stockpile essential commodities within that area so that in the event of a crisis you don't lose that part of the country.

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: Sir, I would like to ask a question on Tamil Nadu.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Only on Pondicherry. Pondicherry is out of Tamil Nadu.

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: But North-East is also not Pondicherry.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Are you ready to answer?

SHRI RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: Sir, the question relates to Pondicherry, but I would like to say what generally the hon. Member has stated is correct. Movement is hampered sometimes because of these disturbed conditions. We are taking special care to see that there is enough stock available in the North-Eastern region. In spite of the movement limitations, we take care that supplies do not remain short and for a few months stocks are maintained in that region.

SHRI S. MADHAVAN: An impression has been created that allocation of rice and other essential articles to the States changes according to the Government change at the Centre For example, in Tamil Nadu, when the Deputy Prime Minister came into power in the last Ministry, he raised the allotment from 50,000 tonnes to 75,000 tonnes of rice. As soon as the present Government came to power, even though the Deputy Prime Minister is same and he is here, its allotment was reduced. This was the allegation made by the State Government. At least whenever an allegation is made by a State Government immediately some answer must come from the Central Government. There is an allegation from the State Government that as soon as this Government supported by the AIADMK and the Congress came to power, they reduced the allotment of rice to the State Government of Tamil Nadu. Will the hon. Minister clarify the position?

SHRI RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: The allotment of essential commodities does not change on account of a change in Government.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He says you reduced rice allocation to Tamil Nadu. That is the question.

SHRI RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: Rice to Kerala...

MR. CHAIRMAN: No. Rice to Tamil Nadu.

SHRI S VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBI: In Kerala, in Tamil Nadu and in Pondicherry. South India itself is being discriminated against The present State Governments in the South are being discriminated against. We want to put this on record.

SHRI RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: Norms have been fixed for allocation of essential commodities for each State on the basis of population.

SHRI H HANUMANTHAPPA: What are the norms for reduction?

SHRI V NARAYANASAMY: For reducing the allotment, what are the norms?

MR CHAIRMAN: The question is very simple Have you reduced allocation of rice to Tamil Nadu and Kerala? That is all. If you have not, say no.

SHRI RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: In the case of Kerala, the normal allocation is one lakh thirtyfive thousand tonnes of rice per month. For two months on the request of the Kerala Government, a special allocation of additional 10,000 tonnes of rice was made. Afterwards the same Govrenment, the earlier Government, withdrew this special additional allocation and reduced the supplies to the previously maintained supplies i e one lakh thirtyfive thousand tonnes Afterwards when we took over at the request of the Kerala Government we gave them additional allocation of 7500 tonnes of rice for this month. Now, there were some irresponsible statements from the people that Kerala's allocation has been reduced

SHRI ARANGIL SUREEDHARAN. I am on a point of order The Kerala Legislative Assembly had passed a resolution protesting against the allocation. To say that Kerala Legislative Assembly is irresponsible and a (*Interruptions*)

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Sir, Mr. Sreedharan is responsible for the reduction of rice quota

SHRI ARANGIL SREEDHARAN. Kerala Legislative Assembly is not an irresponsible one... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY. He was responsible for reduction of quota for Kerala. He was the Commerce Minister and he was responsible for it.

SHRI ARANGIL SREEDHARAN: For your information I was not dealing with the Food and Civil Supplies Ministry.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY. You were in the V. P. Singh's Cabinet and you had the collective responsibility ..(*Interruptions*).

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr Sreedharan, the whole question is...

SHRI ARANGIL SREEDHARAN: To say that the people of Kerala are irresponsible is not correct... (*Interruptions*)...

MR CHAIRMAN. Mr. Sreedharan, wait a minute. Will you kindly sit down? Don't twist his statement. He said that some irresponsible statements were made. He did not say that the Legislative Assembly has made it.

SHRI ARANGIL SREEDHARAN. The Legislative Assembly has made such a statement.

MR CHAIRMAN: He did not say that you are saying this. (*Interruptions*)... You cannot do that. This is impossible. You cannot put words in somebody's mouth . (*Interruptions*). He has only said that the reduction of additional allocation was made by the earlier Government He has also said that when he came to power he had increased it to 7,500 tonnes and some irresponsible statements came. He did not refer to your Assembly. I don't think he means any disrespect to any Assembly. No Minister will say like that

SHRI RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: Perhaps, the hon Member does not know that the Kerala Government itself

MR CHAIRMAN: He himself has been the Chief Minister of a St and how can he cast aspersions on a State?

SHRI RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: The Kerala Government itself has accepted that they were misinformed and their impression was wrong.

SHRI ARANGIL SREEDHARAN: He is putting words in the mouth of the Kerala Chief Minister You also said that I was putting words in his mouth... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI TINDIVANAM G VENKATRAMAN: Mr. Chairman, Sir, regarding Tamil Nadu, he has not answered.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The main question was about Pondicherry and Pondicherry is still not a part of Tamil Nadu.

SHRI PASUMPON THA. KIRUTTINAN: When the hon. Member, Mr. Madhavan has put a question regarding Tamil Nadu, the hon. Minister has responded to it. ..(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You put a separate question for Tamil Nadu. I will allow it. (*Interruptions*) It is spread out in Pondichery. It is spread out in Tamil Nadu. It is spread out Kerala. It is speard in Andhra Pradesh.

श्री चतुरानन मिश्र : चर्चा हो रही है कि साउथ के साथ डिसक्रिमिनेशन हुआ । इसलिये मंत्री महोदय के लिये यह उचित होगा कि सारे भारत में कैसे डिस्ट्रिब्यूशन हुआ, इसके बारे में सारी सूचना आप सभा पटल पर रख दें ताकि इस बारे में सब को जानकारी हो सके कि अगर साउथ के डिसक्रिमिनेशन हुआ हैं तो नार्थ के साथ क्या हुआ, हमारे बिहार में किरोसीन आयल का क्या हुआ, ये सारी बातें आप यहां रख दें ।

SHRI S. VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBI: We have a genuine grievance that we have been discriminated against in India.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Minister, you lay on the Table of the House the details as to how much of Kerosene you have allotted to different States.

SHRI RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: I was only trying to be helpful to hon. Members by providing information If they do not want the information in the spirit in which I want to give them, I would only request that the question should be limited to the area for which it was asked. (*Interruptions*).

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: If you can answer for Kerala, why not for Tamil Nadu? Why should there be a discrimination?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Don't argue. Question No. 122.

तिलहनों का उत्पादन

***122. डा० जितेन्द्र कुमार जैन :**
श्री बलराम सिंह यादव :

क्या कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि देश में खाद्य तेलों की मांग 1990-91 के वर्ष में आपूर्ति की अपेक्षा 10 लाख टन अधिक आंकी गयी हैं ;

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि इस वर्ष देश में तिलहनों का उत्पादन गत वर्ष की अपेक्षा अधिक हुआ है, यदि हां, तो तत्संबधी ब्यौरा क्या है ; और

(ग) क्या यह भी सच हैं कि इस वर्ष कुछ तिलहनों का निर्यात किया गया हैं और यदि हा, तो उनकी मात्रा कितनी थी और इस निर्यात की अनुमति दिये जाने के क्या कारण थे ?

कृषि मंत्रालय में कृषि और सहकारिता विभाग में राज्य मंत्री (श्री जयन्तीलाल वीरचन्दभाई शाह) : (क) से (ग) एक विवरण पत्र सभा पटल पर रख दिया गया है ।

विवरण-पत्र

(क) वर्ष 1990-91 के लिए रबी तिलहन उत्पादन का अनुमान लगाना अभी सभव नहीं हैं । अतः मांग और स्वदेशी आपूर्ति के बीच के अन्तर का अनुमान लगाना असामयिक होगा । 1990-91 के तेल वर्ष के लिए खाद्य तेलों की मांग 60.26 लाख मीटरटन होने का अनुमान हैं ।